



On Campus

A monthly publication for the faculty and staff of Greenfield Community College

December 1990

President's report

Accreditation, Question 3 defeat welcome, but challenges remain

After the events of October and early November, we all needed a few weeks to catch our breaths. The resounding defeat of Question 3 and the positive response to the college on the part of the NEASC Reaccrediting Team during their visit were affirming events for us. They should make us all feel that the exhausting yet excellent work that so many of you did around these two critical events was worthwhile. The many different ways in which you helped are very much appreciated. I hope that the sense of community that evolved during this time can be sustained during the coming months.

So what do we look forward to now? Certainly not the chaos that Question 3 surely would have brought us. But, as Trustee Joe Bete said the other day, we cannot step back from the table—we must keep our guard up and the pressure on. Uncertainty perhaps best describes the approaching months. Until the new Governor is in place, we really do not know what to expect in terms of funding for GCC or for higher education in general. We do know that the economy in Massa-

chusetts will not improve in the short run and that we can expect, therefore, continuing hard times. But we also know that Governor-elect Weld claims that education is his second-highest priority (next to corrections!). And we do know that the growing recession is leading to larger numbers of students registering for community college classes.

We can expect to see in late January or early February a flurry of "cost-saving" proposals emanating from several areas—the Legislature, the Executive, the Board of Regents. We will have to be alert and vigilant as we analyze each to determine its impact on GCC and the students we serve.

I strongly believe that during this period of uncertainty, our best strategy is to focus on what GCC does best—to provide strong, really excellent educational experiences for the people of Western Massachusetts. We must now turn our full attention to our courses and programs, to ensure that they continue to address the needs of students seeking an education at the end of

the 20th century. Our curriculum must take account of the rapid changes in Europe in preparing all our students to live and work in an international and multicultural society, one that will reach right into Franklin County. The curriculum must ensure that our students are able to use a variety of technologies in pursuing information. And most important, it must be examined to ensure that every course students take—in whatever field—fosters their ability to reason well and to communicate effectively. Creative and experimental classroom activities need to be attempted that will actively engage more students in their own learning.

GCC has already distinguished itself as a community college that is academically strong. To continue to develop our academic strength is, I believe, our best defense against those who, in their short-sighted view, think that eroding education is a way to solve the Commonwealth's fiscal woes. We have to show them they are wrong.

—Kay Sloan

People

Debbi Beauchesne has been hired as the administrative assistant director of the Greenfield Child Care Center. Her office is at 35 Pierce Street and she can be reached at x364. Her responsibilities include enrollment and many of the financial aspects of the center. Debbi, a former legal secretary in Virginia, now lives in Greenfield. She will be enrolled as a liberal arts student in GCC in January.

Steven Budd began working at GCC November 19 as director of the college's new Cooperative Education Program. Steve, of Bernardston, directed a cooperative education program at Springfield Technical Community College from 1987 to 1989, and coordinated an older worker employment project there from 1985 to 1987. He has a master's degree in business administration from the University of Massachusetts, and most recently worked as an educational consultant specializing in the development of federal, state and local grant applications. Steve's wife, **Anne Wiley**, is professor of early childhood education.

Joining Steve on the staff of the Cooperative Education program is Job Placement Specialist **Mary Milay**. Mary was director of GCC's returning student program before her new appointment. A graduate of GCC, Mary has a bachelor's degree and a master of education degree from the University of Massachusetts. She has previously taught in GCC's

Division of Continuing Education, and has worked for Franklin County Action in Greenfield, Crossroads Community Growth Center in Holyoke, and the Amherst Housing Authority. She previously managed the Educational Outreach Program in Chicopee. Mary lives in Conway.

The program's half-time secretary is **Valerie Wong Vitello** of Greenfield. She comes to GCC from the Greenfield Public Library. Valerie has a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts.

The Cooperative Education offices are in the deans' suite, with the following extensions: Steven Budd (274), Mary Milay (293) and Valerie Wong Vitello (271).

Elizabeth Carroll joined the college on November 26 as secretary in the business office (extension 252). "Liz" as she likes to be called, joins GCC from the Extension Service at the University of Massachusetts. She is a 1985 graduate of GCC, and lives in Millers Falls.

Bookkeeper **Jim Connelly's** wife, Julia, had an 8-pound, 14-ounce boy on November 27, named Christian Jameison.

Library assistant **Jo Ann Franklin** is leaving GCC and Greenfield to try the West Coast and a new life. She and husband **Jim Franklin**, instrument technician, are moving to the Seattle area, to be near Jo Ann's granddaughter

'The Math Connection' returns for a second season

The Math Connection began its second season on November 5 with host **Linda Cavanaugh**, coordinator of the math program. A team of GCC staff work on the weekly program, which airs Monday nights at 6:30 on cable channel 6 in Gill, Greenfield, Lake Pleasant, Montague, and Turners Falls. The GCC staff include Program Director **Karen Green**, **Garry Longe**, who is in charge of technical production, **Dennis Koonz**, assisting with graphics, **Peter Rosnick** as math consultant, and Assistant Dean **Ira Rubenzahl**, fondly known as

"Father of *The Math Connection*." Two work study students operate the cameras.

The Math Connection is an education program funded by the Dwight D. Eisenhower Grant through the Massachusetts Board of Regents. The purpose of the show is to stimulate student interest in mathematics. This year the show focuses on grades four through seven. Several teachers in the community are helping to plan and implement the show.

The Math Connection will air on December 10, and resume February 4 through April 8.

People

and family and to take advantage of a milder climate and healthier economy. The college gave a farewell party for Jo Ann on December 5, where reminiscences of her 21 years at GCC were related. Their last day on campus will be Friday, December 21.

Professor of Psychology **Art Hannan** completed his first marathon on November 4. He covered the 26-mile, 385-yard course in and around Newport, RI, in just over four hours. Director of Public Relations **Russell Powell** came in 25th in the 100th annual "Pie Race" in Northfield on November 14, winning an apple pie for his efforts. The field of more than 650 runners, joggers and walkers included former Olympic marathon gold medalist Frank Shorter, who finished third.

Former Dean of Students and Professor Emeritus of Geology **Warren Johansson** has just published a new book, *Country*

Copying made easy

Here are some helpful hints for those who expect high quality copying with the minimum of aggravation:

- Fill out your request form completely—refer to the Central Services Handbook (or call John Murphy at x291 if you want the personal touch!).

- Use your Cost Center Number on all requests. This is a MUST—anonymous requests won't be processed!

Furniture and Accessories from Quebec (Schiffer Publishing). The book is a guide to the sources and kinds of Quebec country antiques currently in the United States. It also presents a brief history of the Quebec-American antique trade as well as the personal collecting experiences of the author and his family from the mid-1950s to the early 1980s. The book contains more than 200 photographs and includes a price guide.

Jan Kaiser became director of the Business and Microcomputer Application and Desktop Publishing Programs on November 5. A resident of Greenfield, Jan continues to work part-time for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program of Franklin County, where she was a case worker prior to coming to GCC. Jan was a counselor for the Family Planning Council of Western Massachusetts for many years before that. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts, she is currently working toward her master of social work degree. Her office is in N336 and her extension is 297.

Karen Phillips began working in the business office on December 3. She will be replacing **Bob Flynn**, who will be leaving GCC on December 31. Karen comes to the college from Cycz & Pascucci, CPAs, in Northampton. She has a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Massachusetts. Karen and her husband Michael live in South Deerfield. Her campus extension is 249.

Send us your news

On Campus is a newsletter for the employees of Greenfield Community College. It will be published on a monthly basis and distributed with paychecks beginning next month. Items for consideration (births, weddings, awards, achievements, announcements) should be sent to Russell Powell. **Deadline for the January issue is Friday, December 21.**

Ellie Stebbins reminds people that she is still working at GCC as a part-time secretary in the Humanities Office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (extension 304). After working as a secretary at GCC from October 14, 1962, Ellie retired in June of 1984, "as I was under the impression that at age 70 I had to retire." When she discovered that this was not the case, she set about getting reinstated.

Nancy Winter, early childhood education coordinator, was a presenter at the Early Childhood National Conference in Washington, DC, held November 14-18. Her presentation on "Nutrition and Literature: Partners in Child Development," was made with Dr. Margaret Varma, professor of early childhood at Rutgers University. The conference was sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young People (NAEYC). There were 18,000 participants.

You've got to start meeting like this!

If you chair a meeting and would like it announced in *On Campus*, send the information to Russell Powell.

Be sure to include date, time and place, and indicate whether or not the meeting is open to the entire college community.

Deadline for the January issue is Friday, December 21.

The Faculty and Staff Holiday Party

will be a

Potluck Affair

Friday, December 21 at 12:30 p.m.

*in the
cafeteria*

Watch for Details!